IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of James W. Nichol

Serial No.: 09/106,841

Filed: 06/30/98

For: ANGLED GRIPPING JOINT

December 27, 1999

Group Art Unit: 3600

COMBINATION FOR SUPPORT STRUCTURES

Examiner: Richard M. Smith

AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Further to the Office Action of 10/28/99, please find enclosed an Abstract, Specification and Claims as last previously submitted, but re-formatted as requested, together with marked up copies showing the changes. The revised Specification contains no new material.

Also, Claims 1 - 14 are hereby cancelled, and Claims 15 - 28 submitted instead. The replacement Claims 15 - 28 contain the revisions previously submitted under old Claim numbers 1 - 14.

> **Applicant** James W. Nichol